to time to make amendments in certain labour legislations and steps initiated accordingly. A Group of Ministers on Labour Reforms has been constituted.

The Government has also set up the Second National Commission on Labour with a view to suggest rationalization of existing laws relating to labour in the organised sector and to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. The Commission would, *inter-alia*, take into account the emerging economic environment involving rapid technological changes, globalisation of economy, liberalization of trade and industry, emphasis on international competitiveness and also the need for bringing the existing laws in tune with the future labour market needs and demands. The report of the Commission is expected by 15-02-2002.

Commemorative Postage Stamp

*344. SHRI INDRAMONI BORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation to release a postage stamp commemorating centenary celebration of Padmashree Chandra prova Saikiani-a great social workers and freedom fighter from Assam; and

(b) if so, by when Government would consider the proposal and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Commemorative postage stamp on Padmashree Chandra Prova Saikiani is approved for issue in the year 2002.

Poor Telephone Services

†*345. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inefficiency of 197 and other numbers rendering public service and the difficulties being faced by the consumers as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to improve these services;

(c) whether Government are also aware of criminal indifference in the telephone complaints redressal service; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the steps taken to streamline the same ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) to (d) While complaints have been received from time to time about working of Directory inqury (197) and other public service numbers, every effort is made to improve the effectiveness in functioning of such services. These efforts include computerisation of such services, usage of Interactive Voice Response System, making available directory information on websites, setting up of Call Centres, providing of pagers to line staff for prompter rectification of faults and upgradation of network and customer premises equipment to improve quality of services.

PMRY in Bihar

†*346. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of targets set to generate employment opportunities under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana in Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) the number of educated unemployed persons who have been benefited thereby in the State during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) The targets for the State of Bihar allocated during the last three years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India, the total number of unemployed educated youth who have been disbursed loans during the last three years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 under the PMRY in Bihar is 22319.

Statement

Year-wise Target Allocated to Bihar under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana during the last three years

Year	Target (No.)
1998-1999	20500
1999-2000	21800
2000-2001	21900

†Original notice of the questions was received in Hindi.